Encroachment in sub-way space in Delhi

124. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Hawkers suck up sub-way space", which appeared in 'The Times of India', New Delhi, dated the 25th October,2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to remove the encroachers in the sub-ways constructed in various parts of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has reported that regular raids are being conducted by them to keep the sub-ways free from encroachers/unauthorized squatters. The management and maintenance of sub-ways has been awarded to M/s SELVEL and watch and ward of this company is also keeping vigil on the area.

Number of small and medium towns in India

125. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and medium towns in India as per the latest census data;

(b) the measures being taken to promote the development of small and medium towns; and

(c) the allocations for this purpose as included in the Annual Plan for the year 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) As per 2001 Census there are 5092 small and medium towns having population upto 5 lakhs in the country.

(b) To develop the urban infrastructural facilities of the small and

medium towns in the country, a centrally- sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) has been initiated in 1979-80 which is still in operation. Till the end of October 2002, 1264 towns have been covered under the IDSMT Scheme and Central assistance amounting to Rs. 564.65 crores was released against which an expenditure of Rs. 744.73 crores has been reported by the State Governments, which also includes the releases under State share.

It has been decided to bring more small and medium towns under the scheme and an outlay of Rs. 1304.65 crores has been kept for the scheme in the Tenth Plan.

(c) During the current financial year allocation of Rs. 103.90 crores has been made under the scheme towards Central assistance.

Development of towns under IDSMT scheme

126. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and medium towns developed in various States under the centrally sponsored Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns scheme (IDSMT) so far;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to include any town in Orissa for development during the current financial year and also during Tenth Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the allocation of fund made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Under the centrally-sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), 1264 towns have been covered till the end of October, 2002. The State-wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Selection of towns for inclusion under IDSMT is done by the concerned State Government. Accordingly, the Government of Orissa submitted priority list of 52 towns for coverage under the IDSMT Scheme during the Tenth Plan Period.